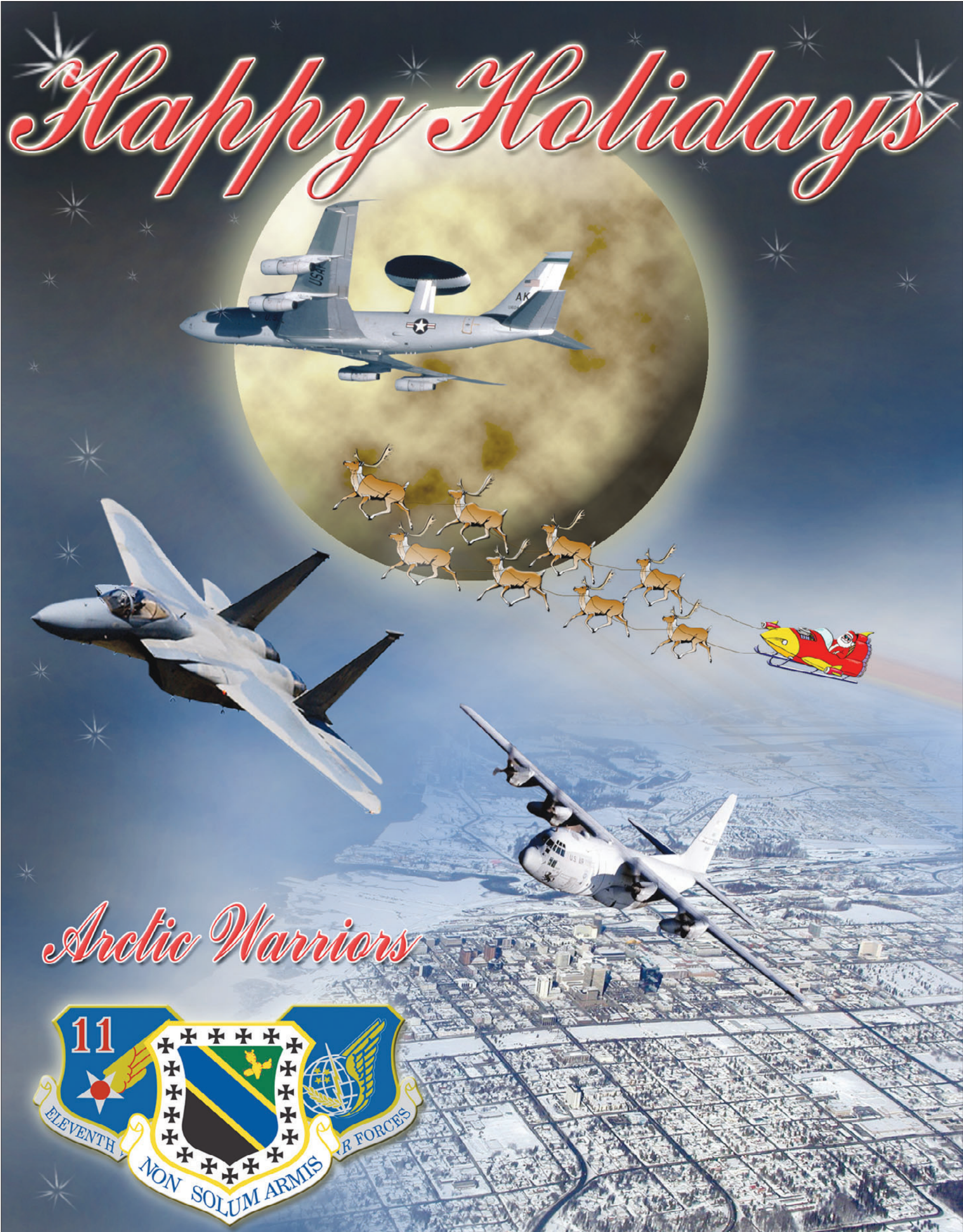


The Sourdough

S E N T I N E L

Dec. 16, 2005 Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska Vol. 56, No. 50



Happy Holidays – Celebrating our Families

By General Paul V. Hester
Commander Pacific Air Forces

As we enter the Holiday Season, I want to thank each member of our PACAF Family ... service member, spouse, son or daughter ... for the outstanding year you have made in 2005. Every one of you has contributed to a very busy year and has well-earned the respect of our great nation. Once again, Airmen of the Pacific have played a vital role in maintaining peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

In an ever changing world, we find demands placed upon us that require sacrifice. This past year we have seen Airmen from the Pacific Air Forces deploy to just about every corner of the world for a variety of missions. With these challenges, I've found that even though our Air Force family is a great source of strength, our greatest strength comes from the family at home.

Whether it's your spouse, chil-

dren, or your parents, they follow your every move with deep compassion, love, and support, while at the same time keeping the home fires burning so you may concentrate on your duty.

Let us honor our loved ones at home this holiday season that extends from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day. Whether you're deployed or enjoying the comforts of home, remember to show your love and appreciation for your biggest fans.

Let us also remember, we face unique risks to our safety, both on- and off-duty. Ensuring we accomplish our missions and enjoy our off-duty activities safely is yet another way we show our appreciation and love to the people we hold most dear in our lives.

To all members of Team PACAF, Lynda and I wish you and your families a blessed and safe holiday season. May God continue to



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO

Gen. Paul V. Hester

guide and guard you and may 2006 bring you and those you love joy, peace and happiness.
MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Staff Sgt. Scott Pahnke, Senior Airman Jason Gatrost and Airman 1st Class Michael Warner, 12th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, performed 11 preventative maintenance actions and uploaded 18 live air intercept missiles and 6,300 rounds of high explosive ammunition on three F-15s for Pacific Air Forces' only Combat Alert Facility. Their efforts ensured armament system reliability during aerial escort and security for Air Force One during the Presidential visit. In addition, they were nominated for the 3rd Wing Weapons Load Crew of the Year Award.

Mr. Randall Sartain, 3rd Operations Support Squadron, provided top-notch weather support to numerous distinguished visitors at Elmendorf. His insightful and timely inputs ensured an accurate forecast to Air Force One during two presidential visits. Additionally, he provided weather data for Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin's arrival and was singled out by the aircrew of U.S. Special Operations Command commander Gen. Douglas Brown for his exceptional professionalism and "great overall service."

3rd Communications Squadron, Information Systems Flight, took short-notice actions to implement a myriad of security measures directed by the Joint Task Force Global Network Operations. Working over 150 man-hours throughout the Thanksgiving weekend, the team implemented a malicious logic scan on over 5,000 computers, provided remediation and patching for over 500 individual personal computers, and investigated possible intrusion activities. These actions ensure secure network operations for all Elmendorf users.

Senior Airman Anastacia Isaacs, 12th Fighter Squadron, was instrumental to the success of the 12th Fighter Squadron's Aircrew Life Support Flight. As flight equipment section supervisor, she managed the maintenance of life saving equipment for 36 F-15C pilots and workload for three technicians. Despite a section manning level of 57 percent, her diligence ensured 100 percent on-time inspection rate for life support equipment.

Air Force releases new mission statement

By Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle
Air Force Print News

The realities of the world have changed dramatically since the creation of the Air Force in 1947 and continue to change almost daily.

With these changes in mind, Air Force leaders released a new mission statement Dec. 7 that defines the current and future direction of the Air Force.

"Today, our world is fast paced, constantly shifting and filled with a wide range of challenges," Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley wrote in a joint Letter to Airmen. "Our mission is our guiding compass, and now

more than ever we need it to be clear and precise."

The mission statement defines the "where and what" the Air Force accomplishes on a daily basis:

The mission of the United States Air Force is to deliver sovereign options for the defense of the United States of America and its global interests – to fly and fight in Air, Space, and Cyberspace.

The statement includes two new concepts, "sovereign options" and "cyberspace," which the secretary and chief defined.

They said having sovereign options is the essence of being a superpower.

"Our task is to provide the president, the combatant commanders, and our nation with an array of

options ... options that are not limited by the tyranny of distance, the urgency of time, or the strength of our enemy's defenses," they said. "With one hand the Air Force can deliver humanitarian assistance to the farthest reaches of the globe, while with the other hand we can destroy a target anywhere in the world."

The term cyberspace includes network security, data transmission and the sharing of information.

"We have quite a few of our Airmen dedicated to cyberspace ... from security awareness, making sure the networks can't be penetrated, as well as figuring out countermeasures," Secretary Wynne said. "The Air Force is a natural leader in the cyber world

and we thought it would be best to recognize that talent."

Adversaries of the United States will use any method or venue necessary to contest America, and it is an Airman's calling to dominate air, space and cyberspace, the leaders said.

"If we can decisively and consistently control these commons, then we will deter countless conflicts," they said. "If our enemies underestimate our resolve, then we will fly, fight, and destroy them."

Using past air power pioneers as examples of understanding the mission, they said, "The Air Force's mission statement has evolved over time, but it does not change the nature of who we are or what we do."



Brig. Gen. Hawk Carlisle
3rd Wing commander

Do you have a problem you can't seem to get solved? Would you like to recognize someone for a job well done?

The commander's action line is your avenue to communicate your questions, comments and concerns directly to the commander, Brig. Gen. Hawk Carlisle. Your calls will get the commander's personal attention and be answered in a timely manner.

If you have a question, call or e-mail the action line at:

552-2224
actionline@elmendorf.af.mil

The following commanders stand ready to help you and can answer the majority of your questions. If they can't help, then please call the Action Line.

Key phone numbers:

Col. Mike Hass, 3rd CES/CC
552-3007

Lt. Col. Mark Allen, 3rd SVS/CC
552-2468

Lt. Col. Brett Meyer, 3rd SFS/CC
552-4304



The Sourdough
SENTINEL

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Best in DoD 2000
Best in Air Force
1999, 2000 & 2001
Best in PACAF
1998, 1999, 2000 & 2001

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Alaska Moment in History

Dec. 15, 1941:

Gen. Hap Arnold, responding to a staff assistance visit report from Col. E. W. Hill, Air Inspector, Army Air Forces, notified Maj. Gen. Simon Buckner and Maj. Everett Davis that the Alaska Air Force would be equipped with one and a half pursuits with 195 aircraft, a heavy bombardment group with 68 aircraft, and a medium bombardment group with 85 aircraft.



Gen. Hap Arnold

Regional Flight Center keeps Alaska moving

By Senior Airman Jared Marquis
3rd Wing Public Affairs

Being in Alaska sometimes makes the continental United States seem far away. But an Army unit on Elmendorf has the capability to make it much closer.

The Alaska Regional Flight Center operates two UC-35A jet aircraft out of Hangar 6 on Elmendorf for the Operational Support Airlift Command. The Operational Support Airlift Command is headquartered at Ft. Belvoir, Va. and is a part of the Army's Operational Support Airlift Agency, an Army agency similar to the Air Mobility Command.

Using these two jets the AKRFC can transport authorized Department of Defense customers throughout the entire state of Alaska and the continental United States, said Sgt. 1st Class William Johnson, NCOIC of the AKRFC.

The UC-35A is a Cessna Citation 560 Ultra

business jet with some minor modifications for military use, including secure voice and data communications capabilities.

According to Sergeant Johnson, the AKRFC has an annual flying hour program of approximately 1,600 hours and uses its training dollars to transport passengers at no cost to their unit.

"It's called 'pilot seasoning,'" he said. "The pilots are going to be flying anyway, why not transport people and equipment while they train."

Sergeant Johnson stated any DoD employee with a legitimate need for transportation can, and should, request a flight. "People think that because they are traveling alone, there is nothing available to support them," he said. "We could have several separate requests for the same location that can be combined." And, although they are more difficult, requests for one or two passengers can still be supported.

"The point is, you don't know if you don't turn in the request," he said.

The AKRFC is integral to daily operations within the Unites States Army Alaska Command by providing an air link between Ft. Wainwright and Ft. Richardson.

However, those are not their only destinations. "We can get people to the CONUS," Sergeant Johnson said. "From there, we work with the Joint Operations Support Airlift Center, to transport them within the CONUS."

In addition to the UC-35 jets, the Army has other fixed-wing aircraft in Alaska available for passenger and cargo transportation. "We want people to know that they have options, we have a variety of assets at our disposal, and people aren't using them."

The AKRFC also transports space available passengers; requests are handled through the Elmendorf Air Mobility Command terminal, 552-3781.

The Alaska Regional Flight Center flight operations can be reached at 552-2108.



PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN JARED MARQUIS



Clockwise from top: A UC-35A sits in the hangar, awaiting its next mission. The Alaska Regional Flight Center has additional assets beside the two UC-35As. Army Staff Sgt. Wanda Kahl, AKFRC, adds to the mission board. The AKFRC offers flights throughout Alaska and to the continental U.S. Larry Dumm, AKFRC, works on an AKFRC aircraft, getting it ready for a future flight.



PACAF Command Chief: “At the core”

By Chief Master Sgt. Rodney McKinley
Command Chief Master Sergeant, Pacific Air Forces

The core is the center, the very foundation, the inmost and most intimate part of a thing. The core is heart of the matter.

When we joined the U.S. Air Force, we became part of a unique culture, and its foundation is our core values, central to all we do and all we are: integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all things. Our Air Force culture and these core values give us a design not only for duty but for our whole lives.

The core values apply everywhere, all the time. As Airmen in the world’s greatest air and space force, we represent the Air Force. We are Airmen whether we’re at our home station or deployed on a temporary duty assignment.

The old notion that “what goes TDY, stays TDY” is simply that: a useless, outdated notion. It has no place in today’s Air Force. The senior leaders of the U.S. and the Air Force across the board work hard to establish and maintain cordial relationships with our allies around the world. As guests in those countries where we are TDY, we must be aware that our behavior can affect our relationships with the people of those countries – for better or worse.

When we were kids, our parents always cautioned us to “be on our best behavior” when we were guests anywhere. We’re adults now, responsible for our own behavior. And if we follow the core values, we are always on our best behavior.

Most Airmen live the core values on a daily basis. But it only takes a few – choosing to ignore those principles – to damage the public perception of the U.S. Air Force and possibly even the United States. Whether we are TDY to

Texas, Turkey, India or Iraq, we are the U.S. Air Force.

When you’re TDY, your performance off duty is as important as your performance on duty. Your actions while TDY can affect your squadron, your wing, your major command, and the U.S. Air Force as a whole – in addition to your family and your career.

If you still have the perception that you can relax your moral standards when you are TDY, you need to take a good, hard look at yourself. The Air Force has no room for you on its team.

Team members look out for each other. Airmen take care of Airmen. It’s the wingman concept – the confidence that we are not flying alone. Someone else is looking out for us to keep us on track and out of trouble.

The wingman concept stretches from top to bottom – it means commanders and supervisors at all levels being fully engaged with their Airmen, not only at home but at TDY locations as well. It means setting the right example, whether you’re a basic airman or a general. You have a responsibility, not only to yourself but to your co-workers and the U.S. Air Force, to be a good wingman.

Let me re-emphasize that most of our Airmen already take the core values to heart. Integrity, service, and excellence are simply part of their daily lives – at the core of who they are. But when even one of our Airmen misbehaves while TDY, it can impact the public perception of the entire Air Force.

We can’t afford to let that happen. Ever. When you’re TDY in an unfamiliar place, take a buddy with you when you’re going out. Be aware of yourself and look out for each other.

Be a good Airman and you will be a good wingman too. And that’s the heart of the matter.

Gen. Hester announces PACAF ‘Family Days’

Gen. Paul V. Hester, commander of Pacific Air Forces, has designated several days for calendar year 2006 as ‘Family Days’ to highlight the importance of spending time with loved ones.

According to General Hester, the family days are given in appreciation for the outstanding effort of the PACAF family.

“As I travel around this theater, our Airmen and their families continue to impress me with their total dedication and levels of effort in making this the best Air Force in the world,” General Hester said. “Ensuring our members have an opportunity to take a break from the ops tempo and spend some quality time with their families is very important.”

As a result of the dedication witnessed throughout PACAF, General Hester has designated the following ‘Family Days’ for 2006: Jan. 13, Feb. 17, May 26, July 3, Sept. 1, Nov. 24, Dec. 22, and Dec. 29.

Civilians are also encouraged to take annual leave or use accrued compensatory time.

“Keep safety a priority in all that we do,” he said, “and enjoy this time together with family and friends. We are Air Force families taking care of Air Force families.”

2006 PACAF Family Days

Jan. 13	Feb. 17
May 26	July 3
Sept. 1	Nov. 24
Dec. 22	Dec. 29

Returning to work after a deployment

By Master Sgt. Tommie Baker
3rd Wing Public Affairs

Returning to the work force after deployment requires some readjustment. Servicemembers may return to the same job or a new position, or to a job that has changed in their absence.

Getting used to the change of pace and adjusting to both new and familiar faces and activities can take time. Here are some ways to help make the transition smoother:

What to expect

- Servicemembers may feel really happy to be home and back at work. At the same time, they may feel some resentment that co-workers have done fine without them. These feelings are a normal part of the adjustment process.
- One may find “normal” life less exciting than the deployed experience. This may be especially true if servicemembers were deployed in active combat situations.
- Servicemembers may feel extra tired, less motivated than usual, or occasionally discouraged. There may be no single reason for these feelings. They may not be able to jump back into work with their usual focus or enthusiasm right away. These feelings are a normal part of the adjustment process.
- Remember to take it slow. Anticipation that has built up since servicemembers knew they were coming home may cause them to want to do

- everything at once.
- People and circumstances may have changed. Servicemembers are coming from a place where everyone understood their mission, job, and special talents. Change is normal and expected, but it can make one feel “out of sync.”
- It’s important to keep in mind that re-integration to “normal” life is more of a process than a single event. It usually takes several months for returning servicemembers to feel fully back into the swing of things. The adjustment often takes place gradually, sometimes in almost unnoticeable ways.
- ### Talking with coworkers and leaders
- Returning servicemembers should find out about workplace changes that took place in their absence. Schedule time with the supervisor to talk about any changes that took place at work while deployed. Ask for information. Ask for background or context information about certain decisions or changes. Discuss how these changes will affect the workplace.
 - Talk about deployment experiences, but in moderation. Most people will be interested in hearing about them, but don't overdo it. Keep in mind that some people may not want to know all about the experiences.
 - Be sure to show interest in how co-workers are doing. Remember, co-workers stayed behind and filled

- the gap, often with little or no recognition.
- Think about how the deployed military experiences could be used to make a contribution to the job now. Chances are the deployment has exposed new tools, work methods, and management techniques that could help the organization succeed. Look for opportunities to share deployed experiences with the supervisor. It could make a real difference.

Making the transition

- Tips to help in easing back into work the first days and weeks:
- Don't over-schedule, especially the first days back.
 - Realize that returning to the workplace may be an adjustment for coworkers as well as the returning servicemember.
 - Meet new people who joined the organization during the deployment.
 - Attend Reintegration Action Plan briefings at the Family Support Center and visit the 3rd Medical Group Force Health Management office within five duty days of returning.

Finding support

- Seek support if having problems coping or if help is needed during the readjustment period.
- Use the military resources that are available. The military offers many sources of support for servicemembers both before and after a deployment. As evidenced by this

- entire series, www.militaryonesource.com, provides numerous avenues to information. Another helpful Web site is the Army site www.hooah4health.com (click on “Deployment” and then on “Family Matters”).
- If needed, ask for accommodations at work during the adjustment period. This may require some negotiating with supervisors.
 - Ask for support to learn new tasks.
 - If help is needed resolving a problem with a co-worker or supervisor, consider talking with a professional.
 - Keep in mind that the adjustment period can take six weeks or so. The time varies from person to person

Support can be through friends, family, supervisor, or the: Chapel Center, 552-4422, Family Support Center, 552-4943 Family Advocacy, 580-5858 Life Skills Support Center, 580-2181

Editor’s note: This is the final installment of a five-part series coordinated with the Family Support Center.

The information is gathered from www.airforceonesource.com.

The site requires customers to log on by using “airforce” as the user ID and “ready” as the password.

Military OneSource is available anytime by phone in the United States at (800) 707-5784, internationally at (800) 7075-7844.

Briefs



Bargain Shop

The Bargain Shop is closed Monday-Jan. 2. Consignments won’t be accepted in December. For details, call 753-6134.

Ski, snowboarding Retreat

Elmendorf chapel is sponsoring a winter ski and snowboarding retreat to Alyeska in Girdwood, Alaska, on Dec. 27 and 28. The cost of \$75 per person includes transportation, all meals, accommodations and lift tickets. Attendees will need to bring or rent their own ski equipment or snowboard. For information or to sign up contact Chaplain Matthew Boyd at 552-4422.

PFD info

Anyone interested in receiving a permanent fund dividend for 2007, must be an Alaskan resident for the entire calender year of 2006. For information, visit www.pfd.state.ak.us/contacts.aspx or call the base legal office at 552-3048.

SARC seeking volunteers

The Sexual Assault Response Coordinator is seeking volunteer victim advocates for the next training class. Volunteers have to be active duty. For information, call the

SARC office at 551-2035 or 551-2033.

TSP enrollment change

Beginning in 2006, the Thrift Savings Plan will no longer have percentage limits for contributions. Members may contribute up to \$15,000, the full amount allowed by the Internal Revenue Service. For information, visit www.tsp.gov/rates/fundsheets.html.

AADD drivers needed

Airman Against Drunk Driving needs volunteers Dec. 30, Jan. 1 and Jan. 2. Spouses, civilians, officers and enlisted are eligible to volunteer. For information, contact Senior Airman Jenny Tull at 552-3985.

Palace Chase

The Palace Chase program allows eligible individuals to apply to separate from active duty to join the Air Force Reserves. Anyone interested in Palace Chase should contact Master Sgt. Bryan Schexnayder at 552-3595.

Flu vaccine

The influenza vaccine is now available to all Tricare beneficiaries The immunizations clinic

hours of operation are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Shots will also be available in the Joint Military Mall, next to the Ulimaaq Gift Shop, on Jan. 7 and 8 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

DeCA scholarship available

The Elmendorf Commissary has applications for the Scholarship for Military Children. Applications must be turned in by Feb. 22. For information, visit www.militaryscholar.org or call 580-4425.

Virtual Commissary open for business

Commissary shoppers can now use the web to do their shopping. The Virtual Commissary can be accessed by going to www.commissaries.com and clicking the shopping link.

Bank hours

Beginning Jan. 2, Alaska USA Federal Credit Union’s hours will be 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Saturday for the lobby and 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Saturday for the drive through. For information, call 563-4567.

Housing survey

Aurora Military Family Hous-

ing is conducting a survey to determine what tenants feel are the most important quality of life improvements.

Contact Kenneth Michael at *ken-neth.michael@elmendorf.af.mil* or at 552-1189.

Gift wrapping

The Arctic Oasis Community Center is offering professional gift wrapping. Costs are between \$3 and \$5 and includes bows, ribbons and gift tags.

For information, call 552-8529.

Snow sledding

There are three areas in which base children may play and sled free from the dangers of traffic and snow removal equipment.

They are located off Metzger and 15th Street, by the baseball field off Luke Ave. and behind Burger King by the Midnight Sun Park.

Energy savings

The U-Fix-It store can help Aurora Military Family Housing tenants cut down on energy bills by providing weather stripping, hose

bib covers, fluorescent bulbs and practical ideas on how to help cut down on heating and electric bills.

They also take service calls to install door sweeps or to check for other air leaks and take the necessary action to conserve energy.

To contact the U-Fix-It store, call 753-9070, for service-related issues, call 753-1091.

Home buying seminar

The Elmendorf Housing Office offers a home purchasing seminar Jan. 9 at 1 p.m. at 6346 Arctic Warrior Drive. The class lasts two to three hours.

Seating is limited.

For details or to make a reservation, call 552-4439 or 552-4328.

Freezing pipes

Aurora Military Family Housing is concerned about frozen pipes in base housing. Keeping garage doors closed unless moving vehicles will help. Also, hose bib covers are available for tenants to install on their units.

For information, contact AMFH at 753-1023.

Career resource library

The Family Support Center has books available for those interested in making a career change. Books include information on applying for federal positions and writing cover letters and resumes.

For information, contact the FSC at 552-4943.

De-icer in housing

Residents of Moose Crossing are asked not to put Ice Melt or any other chemical de-icer on their sidewalks and pavement. New pavement areas need a full year to cure before a chemical de-icer is used. U-Fix-It will provide sand for their use.

For information, call 552-1023.

Extended care done for the year

The Returning Home and Mildly Ill extended care programs will be suspended Sunday through the end of the year.

For information, contact the Family Child Care office at 552-3995.



Chapel Schedule

Catholic Parish

- Monday through Wednesday and Friday Mass: 11:30 a.m. at the Chapel Center
- Thursday Mass: 11:30 a.m. at the Hospital Chapel
- Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m. at Chapel 1
- Sunday Evening Mass: 5 p.m. at Chapel 2
- Confession: 4:30 p.m. Sundays at Chapel 2

Protestant Sunday

- Liturgical Service: 9 a.m. at Chapel 2
- Celebration Service: 9 a.m. at Chapel 1
- Gospel Service: noon at Chapel 1
- Fellowship Praise: 6 p.m. at Chapel 1

Religious Education

- Catholic Religious Education: Sunday at 9 a.m. at the Chapel Center.
- Protestant Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. at the Chapel Center.

For more details, call the Chapel at 552-4422.



Extra, extra read all about it ...

The *Sourdough Sentinel* staff wants your opinion.

To participate in the readership survey,
log on to:

www.afnews.af.mil/internal/survey/survey_index.htm.

Arctic Warriors of Week



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. SUELLYN NUCKOLLS

Master Sgt. Dale Glover

Organization and duty title: 3rd Security Forces Squadron police services superintendent
Hometown: Montoursville, Pa.
Hobbies: Hunting, fishing, snowmachining, motorcycling ... anything outdoors
Mission Contributions: Coordinates security forces related activities with the base agencies. Oversees base access and records sections to provide statistics on trends occurring on Elmendorf.
Time at Elmendorf: Three years, four months
Time in the Air Force: 17 years
Best part about being in Alaska: The awesome outdoor events to partake in.
Quote from Supervisor: “Sergeant Glover is the cornerstone of 3rd SFS relations with the community. His constant dedication to customer service and attention to detail ensure thousands of base visitors have quick access to base every month. I have never met a more knowledgeable or harder working NCO.” Mr. David Toler



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. LISA POLAREK

Airman 1st Class Jason Hemphill

Elmendorf Unit: 703rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Deployed Unit: 376th Expeditionary AMXS C-130H crew chief
First thing to do after arriving home: “Spend time with my wife.”
Outstanding Attributions: “Airman Hemphill embodies the Air Force core values. A true professional, he meticulously inspects and maintains the C-130, ensuring safe and mission-ready aircraft are provided to Manas’ (Kyrgyz Republic) aircrews. Airman Hemphill consistently goes the extra mile to ensure that even minor discrepancies, which could easily be overlooked at a deployed location, receive attention. He has proven himself a valuable team member during this period of decreased manning and increased operations. He has readily accepted every challenge and training opportunity that has come his way.” Tech. Sgt. Marcus Maschhoff

Airmen receive non-judicial punishment

Member discharged for disciplinary infractions

Article 15s:

An airman first class with the 3rd Communications Squadron drank alcohol while under the legal drinking age of 21.

His punishment was a reduction to the grade of airman and suspended forfeiture of \$200 pay for two months.

An airman first class with the 3rd Civil Engineer Squadron failed to go to mandatory study sessions on multiple occasions, disobeyed a lawful order, failed to refrain from watching television and talking on the telephone during mandatory study sessions and failed to follow his emergency response checklist.

His punishment was a reduction to the grade of airman with a suspended reduction to the grade of airman basic, forfeiture of \$150 pay for two months, 10 days extra duty and a reprimand.

A staff sergeant with the 3rd CES committed adultery.

His punishment was a reduction to the grade of senior airman,

suspended forfeiture of \$350 pay for two months, 10 days extra duty and a reprimand.

A staff sergeant with the 3rd Equipment Maintenance Squadron willfully misused his government travel card. The member also failed to pay the debt incurred on his GTC.

His punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to the grade of senior airman, suspended forfeiture of \$978 pay for two months and 30 days extra duty.

A senior airman with the 3rd CES failed to go to mandatory physical training on multiple occasions.

His punishment was a reduction to the grade of airman first class, forfeiture of \$250 pay for two months, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

A senior airman with the 3rd Mission Support Squadron was dis-

respectful to an NCO on multiple occasions.

Her punishment consisted of a reduction to the grade of airman first class, suspended forfeiture of \$820 pay for two months and a reprimand.

An airman with the 3rd Services Squadron was in possession of two marijuana leaves in the dorms. The member also displayed a sexually explicit poster in his dorm room as well as having several fire safety violations.

His punishment was a reduction to the grade of airman basic, suspended forfeiture of \$500 pay per month for two months and 28 days extra duty with fourteen days suspended.

A staff sergeant from the 3rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron was drunk and disorderly. During this incident he failed to obey a lawful order given by a member of

the 3rd Security Forces Squadron on three occasions.

The member also attempted to strike a member of 3rd SFS and resisted arrest during the altercation. He wrongfully used provoking words toward a 3rd SFS member and assaulted a technical sergeant by grabbing, pushing and picking him up off the ground.

His punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to senior airman, forfeiture of \$500 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

Discharges:

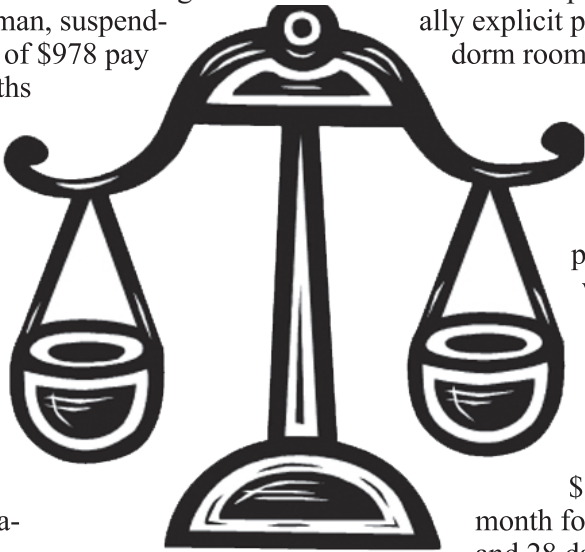
An Airman with the 381st Intelligence Squadron was administratively discharged for multiple minor disciplinary infractions. The member’s misconduct included one Article 15 for failing to report for duty at the time prescribed and one vacation action of suspended punishment for failing to report for duty at the time prescribed.

A vacation action imposes a suspended punishment from a previous Article 15.

The member also received two letters of reprimand and one letter of counseling.

The member’s misconduct resulted in his general discharge.

(Courtesy of the 3rd Wing Legal Office)



Base, local community offer ‘warm heart’

By Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp
3rd Wing Public Affairs

Elmendorf first sergeants help take care of their troops throughout the year in many different ways.

One of these ways is through Operation Warm Heart, a private organization that helps those in need with either financial support or groceries.

The first sergeants spearhead fund raising during the year and elect a council to oversee the distribution of funds for Operation Warm Heart. During the holiday season, council members are helping ensure their Airmen have food on the table and funds to get through what could be a tough time of year, said Master Sgt. Greg Nygaard, 611th Air Operations Group first sergeant.

“Warm Heart funds help provide Thanksgiving (and Christmas) meals for many base families each year,” said Sergeant Nygaard, president of Operation Warm Heart Council. “This year, 280 base families received complete Thanksgiving meals. It was a team effort.”

Funds are donated throughout the year from the base and local community. Sergeant Nygaard said supporters of this program include several Anchorage businesses, the base chapel, the Boy and Girl Scouts and the first sergeants.

According to Chaplain (Capt.) Gregory Brunson, 3rd Wing, the chapel collects a designated offering for Operation Warm Heart each



PHOTO BY JAMIE NELSON

Members of Brownie Girl Scouts Troop 47, Ramsey Osborn, Sarah Dengler (back to camera), Winter Waters and Katie Williams, shop for food at the commissary to donate to Operation Warm Heart.

year. Since October, he said more than \$2,000 has been donated to this program.

The chaplain added that Operation Warm Heart is important, especially today, because people tend to think material items make them happy. “Those things really don’t make us happy for very long,” he said. “What really matters is making a difference in the lives of people around you. It’s what it means to really be someone’s wingman.”

Additionally, the chapel staff printed informational flyers. In turn, the Scouts volunteered on weekends to hand out the flyers and collect food donations at the commissary.

Brownie Girl Scouts Troop 47 was one of the scouting units that participated.

“We just wanted to let the public know that we are here for them, we support our military families and are thankful,” said Jamie Nelson, Brownies Troop 47 co-leader here on base.

The first and second graders used a \$1,000 grant that Mrs. Nelson received to buy food and donate it to Operation Warm Heart.

“The (Scouts) were truly amazing, and always seem to come through for us,” Sergeant Nygaard said. “They’re a very special bunch.”

Sergeant Nygaard said Operation Warm Heart is not geared toward

any specific rank.

“There are cases where some people may be in need and don’t necessarily qualify for financial support,” he added. “Most are emergency situations that are time critical, and others are just doing what’s right.

“When a need arises that unit first sergeants feel may need Warm Heart support, (they) contact our Warm Heart Council and we decide whether financial support is appropriate,” Sergeant Nygaard said. “I’m proud to say that this past year, we never turned down a request from a fellow first sergeant.”

Funds are provided as either loans or grants, depending on the nature of the request and the member’s ability or willingness to replace the funds. He said recent beneficiaries have included some families who evacuated due to Hurricane Katrina, children who needed clothing items and victims of dislocation due to fire.

“(The) dozens of grants or loans (helped) in cases where bad things happened to good people,” he said.

“Hundreds of Elmendorf families benefit (from Operation Warm Heart) in some form or fashion every year. The first sergeants are proud to be the custodians of an effort that has such a dramatically positive impact on families right here at Elmendorf,” Sergeant Nygaard said. “After all, taking care of people is our business. When first sergeants collectively decide to engage in something so right, we’re going to make sure it’s done right.”

Arctic Life

Great living in the great land

Elmendorf members celebrate holidays



Clockwise from above: Santa Claus visits the children Dec. 7 at the Tree Lighting Ceremony held at the Chapel 1 Annex. The base tree lights up after Elmendorf members push the button. Rachel Valiquette, whose dad is deployed, helps Brig. Gen. Hawk Carlisle, 3rd Wing commander, light the tree. The Aurora Elementary choir provided the entertainment for the Chapel sponsored event.



PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. DAVID DONOVAN



Letters from Santa

Air Force volunteers are once again hosting Santa's Mailbag, a free holiday program that lets children from around the world request and receive a letter from Santa Claus postmarked from North Pole, Alaska.

Members of the 58th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron started the program more than 50 years ago to help Airmen at Eielson get into the Christmas spirit, said Capt. Jason Wild, commander of the 354th Operations Support Squadron combat weather flight.

"Members of the combat weather flight now carry on that legacy," he said.

Each year, the unit receives thousands of "Dear Santa Claus" letters and Christmas wish lists.

Flight volunteers read the letters, select appropriate replies and mail them from Santa Claus with an official North Pole postmark. Last year, the program received more than 4,000 letters.

"It is an important local tradition which has been carried on by weather Airmen for more than half a century," Captain Wild said. "We get to bring happiness to children around the globe when they receive their very own letter from Santa postmarked with a North Pole stamp."

The volunteers started processing letters in late November and will continue through Christmas. The flight must receive letters to Santa by mid-December to ensure a reply before Christmas. Children whose letters arrive too late will get a special "after Christmas" letter from Santa.

Write to Santa at: Santa's Mailbag, 354th OSS/OSW, 2827 Flightline Ave. Suite 100B, Eielson AFB AK 99702-1520.

There is no cost for letters, but self-addressed stamped envelopes or donations made out to "Santa's Mailbag" help to defray the cost of postage and supplies.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Arctic Warriors bring holidays to remote village

By Senior Airman Jared Marquis
3rd Wing Public Affairs

For the 38th year, members of Elmendorf and the 517th Airlift Squadron have brought the holidays to a small village in northern Alaska.

The tradition started in 1967 when, due to migration changes, the Arctic Village hunters were unable to get to the caribou that had sustained them for so long. The first year, the 17th Tactical Airlift Squadron transported the hunters to a location closer to the caribou, and then took them and their bounty back to the village.

A lot has changed in the last 38 years, but some things are still the same.

“The village is a bit of a (contradiction). On the one hand, they have wireless Internet access, snowmobiles, and generators and there are children walking around listening to walkmen. On the other hand, they largely live off the land, and the caribou herd is still vital to their survival. Their houses are very small by our standard, and have very few of what we would consider normal amenities. Outhouses, as opposed to toilets, are the standard and running water is a luxury,” said Capt. Marc Woodworth, 517th AS and organizer for this year’s Arctic Village. “Yet, they are happy and content. It just goes to show you that happiness does not walk hand in hand with material wealth.”

According to Lorane Nikolai, Arctic Village resident, living

without running water is not near as tough as getting supplies. “We have a small general store here, but it’s really expensive and doesn’t have a large selection,” she said. For this reason, the villagers make trips to Fairbanks to load up on supplies. “It costs about \$350 to \$400 to go to Fairbanks; because of the cost, we don’t get to go very often,” said Mrs. Nikolai. “We are just so grateful for the help (the Air Force) brings us.” The trip, which took place Tuesday, was originally scheduled for Dec. 6, but was postponed due to weather. “We get up early for the arrival; when we found out that the tradition was delayed, we were disappointed, especially the children,” Mrs. Nikolai said. One of the highlights of the trip, especially for the children, is when Santa and his helpers pass out the presents. “The best part of the trip for me, bar none, was the surprise and excitement on the children’s faces, particularly the very young ones, when we handed out the Christmas gifts. As corny as it may sound, it made all the hard work worth it,” said Captain Woodworth. Along with the presents, the visitors brought food, winter clothing and company. In return, the villagers gave what they could. “You could tell the villagers put forth a lot of time and effort into preparing a wide variety of food,” said Airman 1st Class Robert Aten, 3rd Communications Squadron videographer. “I

really enjoyed the cultural diversity.” “I have never had the opportunity to visit a remote village such as Arctic Village. I did not know what to expect,” Capt. Woodworth said. “What I experienced was a sense of warmth and welcome that is difficult to describe. Here we are, people from hundreds of miles away from a different culture, and we were made to feel at home within minutes of our arrival. It was a unique and valuable experience.” In addition to making the visitors feel at home, the villagers sang songs, and fed the Airmen and family members. As far as organizing the event, it has gotten easier in the last 38 years. “We have a long standing relationship with Arctic Village (residents), and since they have Internet access and reliable telephone service, correspondence is now only a keystroke or phone call away,” said Captain Woodworth. “Most notably, Rebecca Hansen, a teacher at Arctic Village, has been our primary point of contact. She has made the coordination process run as smoothly as we could have hoped for.” Toward the end of the day, Brig. Gen. Hawk Carlisle, 3rd Wing commander, thanked the villagers and said he hoped to continue the tradition. “It’s been a great 38 years, and we will keep doing it as long as possible.” *Editor’s note: Airman 1st Class Garrett Hothan, 3rd CS photographer, contributed to this story.*



Clockwise from top left: Brig. Gen. Hawk Carlisle, 3rd Wing commander, talks to Second Chief Gideon James at Arctic Village Tuesday. The traditional name of the village is Neets’aii Gwich’in Athabascan Village. Members of Arctic Village perform a traditional Athabascan ‘welcome’ dance for the visiting Airmen. Kyla (left) and Kobi Nikolai, open the presents delivered by the C-130 and Santa Tuesday. Children from Arctic Village perform for the members of Elmendorf and the 517th AS. Santa hands out presents to the children of Arctic Village. Elmendorf and the 517th AS make a yearly trip to the northern Alaskan village, bringing food, clothing and supplies. Santa Claus hands Olivia Hollarath a bottle full of milk.



Free Christmas Party,
December 23, 6 p.m.,
adults only, gifts, games
and a DJ at the Kashim
Club.
753-3131

Arctic Warriors at the front



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN MICHAEL GARZA

Airman 1st Class Leland Driggs (above), 386th Expeditionary Communications Squadron, conducts a 56-day corrosion control preventative maintenance inspection on the base giant voice system. Airman Driggs is deployed from Elmendorf’s 3rd CS in support of operations in Southwest Asia.

Airman 1st Class Sean McGuigan (below), 386th Expeditionary Communications Squadron, removes dust from a computer before replacing a bad hard drive. The 386th ECS is responsible for the maintenance of more than 2000 small computers. Airman McGuigan is deployed from Elmendorf’s 3rd CS in support of operations in Southwest Asia.



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. ALFRED GERLOFF JR.

City and community support military

By Mayor Mark Begich
City of Anchorage

With the holidays upon us, there is no better time to step back and reflect on how fortunate we are to be Alaskans and Americans.

This is also the perfect time to take a minute to thank the thousands of military members and families who live in our community for the service and sacrifice they offer everyday while serving our country.

At the Municipality of Anchorage we are working to increase and improve our military recognition all the time.

One of the most visible initiatives is the newly-formed Anchorage First Lady Military & Family Support Initiative. In partnership with the Armed Services YMCA my wife, Deborah, is helping lead the effort to raise money to support deployed servicemembers and their families left at home. To date, the Initiative has raised almost \$25,000.

At our recent Holiday Tree Lighting celebration in Town Square Park we also held a special military reception and dedicated a military tribute tree that will stand in the lobby of the Performing Arts Center through the holiday season.

You are invited to hang an ornament in honor of a friend or family member serving overseas. At the reception, we were pleased to hand out dozens of hand-knitted scarves, hats, mittens, and blankets given by a number of knitting groups in town who generously responded to our request for donations.



COURTESY PHOTO

Mayor Mark Begich

work for the city and serve in the National Guard and Reserve. At the beginning of each meeting of the Anchorage Assembly we recognize the service of those employees and present them with a special certificate.

With the help of AT&T Alascom, we recently pulled off a live video feed linking an Anchorage Police Officer serving in Iraq with his wife (and the rest of us at the assembly meeting) for a very moving reunion.

I am pleased to say the MOA has been awarded 5-Star recognition by the national committee for the Employee Support for the Guard and Reserve.

We received outstanding marks for policies relating to military leave, hiring practices for veterans, benefits provided beyond the federal requirements, and other areas.

Thank you for your continued commitment and service to our country and our community.

Happy Holidays to you and yours.

We have also been working on an internal campaign to recognize employees serving both the Municipality of Anchorage and the Armed Forces of the U.S.

The MOA has more than 70 individuals who

Base reaches CFC goals

By Senior Airman Jared Marquis
3rd Wing Public Affairs

Team Elmendorf reached its goal of 100 percent contact for the 2005 Combined Federal Campaign, said Senior Master Sgt. Mark Samborski, base CFC coordinator.

The mission of the CFC is to promote and support giving through a program that is employee focused, cost-efficient and effective, and according to the website, the CFC is “the world’s largest and most successful annual workplace giving campaign.”

Sergeant Samborski added that, “the CFC is a conduit to a very large number of charitable organizations. The campaign enables Elmendorf’s Airmen to donate to many local, state and national charities. Many of those charities, by design, directly benefit our Air Force family.”

Sergeant Samborski is grateful for the opportunity.

I have several friends that have family members who have been seriously burned in accidents and been treated at no cost to their family, by Shriner’s Hospitals for Children. For 13 years I’ve donated to their cause,” he said.

In addition to the goal of 100 percent contact, Elmendorf set a monetary target of \$275,000, which they “blew” by, according to Sergeant Samborski.

“In a year marked by huge charitable outpourings for tsunami (in Indonesia) and Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma, for our Elmendorf family to raise \$305,000, above and beyond contributions to those disasters, is truly remarkable. It speaks volumes toward our collective benevolence toward humanity,” he said.

In 2004, Elmendorf raised \$285,654 for the CFC.



Air Force declares F-22A operational

The Air Force's most advanced weapon system is ready for combat, Air Force officials at Langley Air Force Base, Va., announced Thursday.

In reaching initial operational capability, the F-22A Raptor has been certified ready for employment.

Declaring the transformational fighter IOC means the Raptor's proven capabilities are now available for use in combat around the globe and are supported by a properly trained and equipped force. It also means the aircraft is qualified to perform homeland defense missions when required. In the words of Gen. Ronald E. Keys, Air Combat Command commander, "If we go to war tomorrow, the Raptor will go with us.

"F-22A IOC means our warfighters now have an unprecedented lethal mix of air-to-air and air-to-ground capabilities at their disposal," General Keys said. "The Raptor's cutting-edge technology brings us continued joint air dominance despite advancing enemy threats."

Reaching the IOC milestone culminates a collaborative effort between Air Force organizations and the service's industry partners over the past 25 years. The road to IOC included the F-22A System



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. SAMUEL ROGERS

The Air Force has changed the designation of the F/A-22 to the F-22A Raptor. The service designated it "F/A" three years ago to stress the stealth fighter's ability to provide close-air support and drop bombs. The "A" will now designate the variant of the aircraft.

Program Office turning Air Force requirements into a successful acquisition program; developmental flight test and evaluation, simulation and ground testing at Edwards AFB, Calif., and Eglin AFB, Fla.; engine testing at Arnold AFB, Tenn.; missile testing at Holloman AFB, N.M., and over the Pacific Test Range; tactics development at Nellis AFB, Nev.; pilot and maintenance training at Tyndall AFB, Fla.; and deployability at Langley AFB.

"The F-22A fulfills a long quest to bring fifth-generation capabilities of stealth, supercruise and precision to the warfighter today and 30 years from today," General Keys said. "Now that we have met our

first promised milestone of a fully capable, multi-mission platform ready for combat, we are already focused on furthering our integrated tactics development, refining our deployability, and growing and training our force. To add to what we learned on our successful first operational deployment to the Utah Test and Training Range to drop (joint direct attack munitions), fly against double-digit (surface-to-air missiles) at Nellis, and work (close air support) with F-16 Forward Air Controller-Airbornes, we will conduct our first routine peacetime exercise deployment by taking 12 Raptors to Alaska in June for Northern Edge."

Designed to ensure America's air dominance for years to come, the F-22A will ensure U.S. joint forces' freedom from attack and freedom to attack, even as adversaries continue to advance their weapons and technologies.

"As I told (Air Force Chief of Staff) Gen. (T. Michael) Moseley, he and I have spent our lifetime executing, instructing, and providing air dominance for the joint force. Lamentably, we have never been privileged to hold a weapon like this in our hands. After reviewing our test results, seeing our operational deployment performance, and talking to the pilots that will go to war with it, I am confident that the F-22A joins the combat force at a far more mature and capable level than any of our previous great aircraft, and will take its rightful place in a long line of U.S. Air Force legends of the air," General Keys said.

The first combat-ready Raptors are assigned to the 27th Fighter Squadron, one of three squadrons assigned to the 1st Fighter Wing.

The squadron's current combat deployment capability with the F-22A is a 12-ship package designed to execute air-to-air and air-to-ground missions.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News).

Merry Christmas!

By **Capt. Tony Wickman**
Alaskan Command Public Affairs

Across

- 1. Reindeer relative
- 4. TV channel
- 7. Deft
- 10. Capture a criminal
- 13. One of Santa’s reindeers
- 14. Explore
- 15. Had on
- 16. Opine
- 18. Shouted by golfers
- 20. MDs’ workplaces
- 21. Southwestern Native American
- 22. Color of Santa’s digs
- 23. Rip
- 25. Distress
- 27. Black and Green
- 28. Santa’s ride
- 30. Coats of arms
- 32. Before, poetically

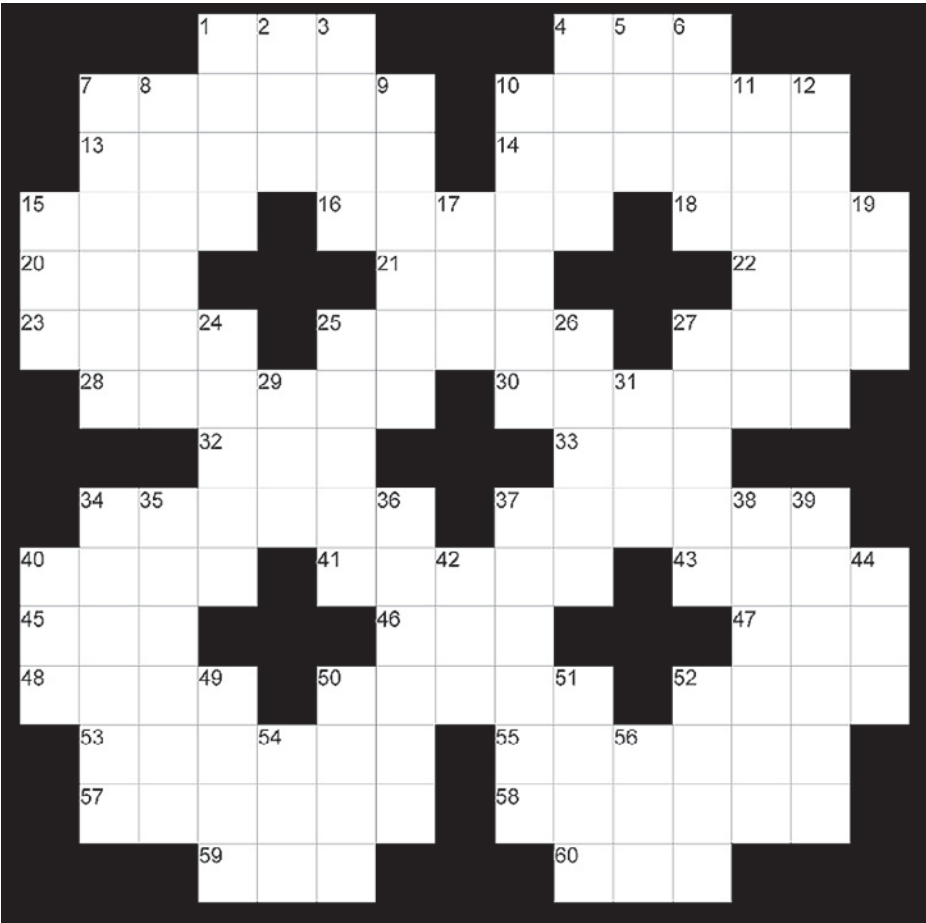


Last week’s solution

- 33. Edge
- 34. This We’ll ____; USA recruiter motto
- 37. Doctrines
- 40. Writes
- 41. An ungulate
- 43. Severenson and Holliday
- 45. 56, to Cassius
- 46. Teacher’s org.
- 47. Trains, in short
- 48. “It ain’t over...Till it’s over!” Berra
- 50. Chilling
- 52. Hammer part
- 53. Skewer
- 55. ____ borealis; site seen at Santa’s home
- 57. One of Santa’s reindeers
- 58. Ski
- 59. SECDEF’s office symbol
- 60. Descry

Down

- 1. Sea eagle
- 2. “Man of a thousand faces” Chaney
- 3. Ukrainian city
- 4. Place for Christmas presents
- 5. Swim wear part
- 6. Servant
- 7. Loves
- 8. Fish’s fin
- 9. Place to feed reindeers
- 10. Climb
- 11. Kobe Bryant in basketball is one
- 12. Groove on a screw



- 15. Damp
- 17. Simpson trial judge
- 19. Actors O’Neil and Harris
- 24. Marine ridges
- 25. T-man
- 26. More nimble, in nautical terms
- 27. Domesticated
- 29. Anger
- 31. Receptacle
- 34. Barren of anything
- 35. Mystery
- 36. One of Santa’s reindeers
- 37. Crowns
- 38. Matador
- 39. Shout
- 40. Use
- 42. Pod denizen
- 44. Mil. ID
- 49. ____ facto; by that very fact
- 50. Gift item for children in winter
- 51. Season or feast celebrating Christmas
- 52. North ____; Santa’s home
- 54. Used to express accomplishment
- 56. Singer Charles

SPORTS PAGE

Elmendorf pee wees play hoops for fun



PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. DAVID DONOVAN

Clockwise from top left: Pee wee Pistons Logan Laslo, son of Stephanie Laslo, gets ready for a shot Monday at the Youth Center.

Elmendorf's youth cheerleaders learned a routine with the help of their coach, 2nd Lt. Sarah Tacey, 3rd Operations Support Squadron.

Pistons player Kevan Jones, son of Senior Master Sgt. John Jones, tries to steal the ball from Aidan Ascio (left), son of Staff Sgt. Melvin Ascio, and Eric Cox (right), son of Thomas Cox, of the Lakers.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. DAVID DONOVAN

Intramural Basketball Champs

The 3rd Civil Engineer Squadron Intramural basketball team beat the 3rd Security Forces Squadron 65-43 Dec. 5, to win their 3rd Intramural Championship in a row.

Sport Short

Archery shoot-off

The Black Sheep archery club will hold a face-to-face archery shoot-off Saturday at the indoor range on base. Qualification will begin at 2 p.m. followed by the shoot-off. The tournament is a double elimination and costs \$15. For information, contact Capt. Wayne Stiles at 552-7773.